

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 17-A: MAINE CRIMINAL CODE**  
**Chapter 31: OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**§754. OBSTRUCTING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION**

1. A person is guilty of obstructing criminal prosecution if:

A. The person uses force, violence or intimidation, or the person promises, offers or gives any pecuniary benefit to another, with the intent to induce the other:

(1) To refrain from initiating a criminal prosecution or juvenile proceeding; or

(2) To refrain from continuing with a criminal prosecution or juvenile proceeding that the other person has initiated; or [2001, c. 383, §89 (AMD); 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF) .]

B. The person solicits, accepts or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit in consideration of doing any of the things specified in this subsection. [2001, c. 383, §89 (AMD); 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF) .]

[ 2001, c. 383, §89 (AMD); 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF) .]

2. This section does not apply to conduct authorized by Title 15, section 891.

[ 2001, c. 383, §89 (AMD); 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF) .]

3. It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that:

A. The charge in fact made or liable to be made was for a Class D or Class E crime or a comparable juvenile offense; and [1977, c. 510, §62 (RPR) .]

B. The pecuniary benefit did not exceed an amount which the actor believed to be due as restitution or indemnification for harm caused by the offense. [1977, c. 510, §62 (RPR) .]

[ 1977, c. 510, §62 (RPR) .]

4. Obstructing criminal prosecution is a Class C crime.

[ 1977, c. 510, §62 (NEW) .]

**SECTION HISTORY**

1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW). 1977, c. 510, §62 (RPR). 2001, c. 383, §89 (AMD). 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).

---

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 126th Maine Legislature and is current through August 1, 2014. The text is subject to*

*change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.